



Tiana and Her Loyal Friend



A Disney
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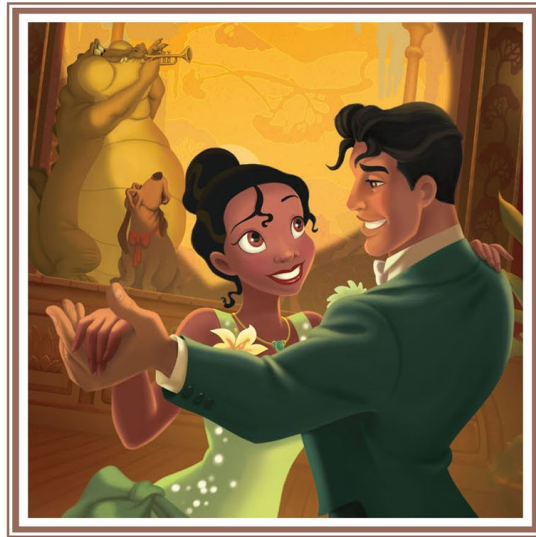
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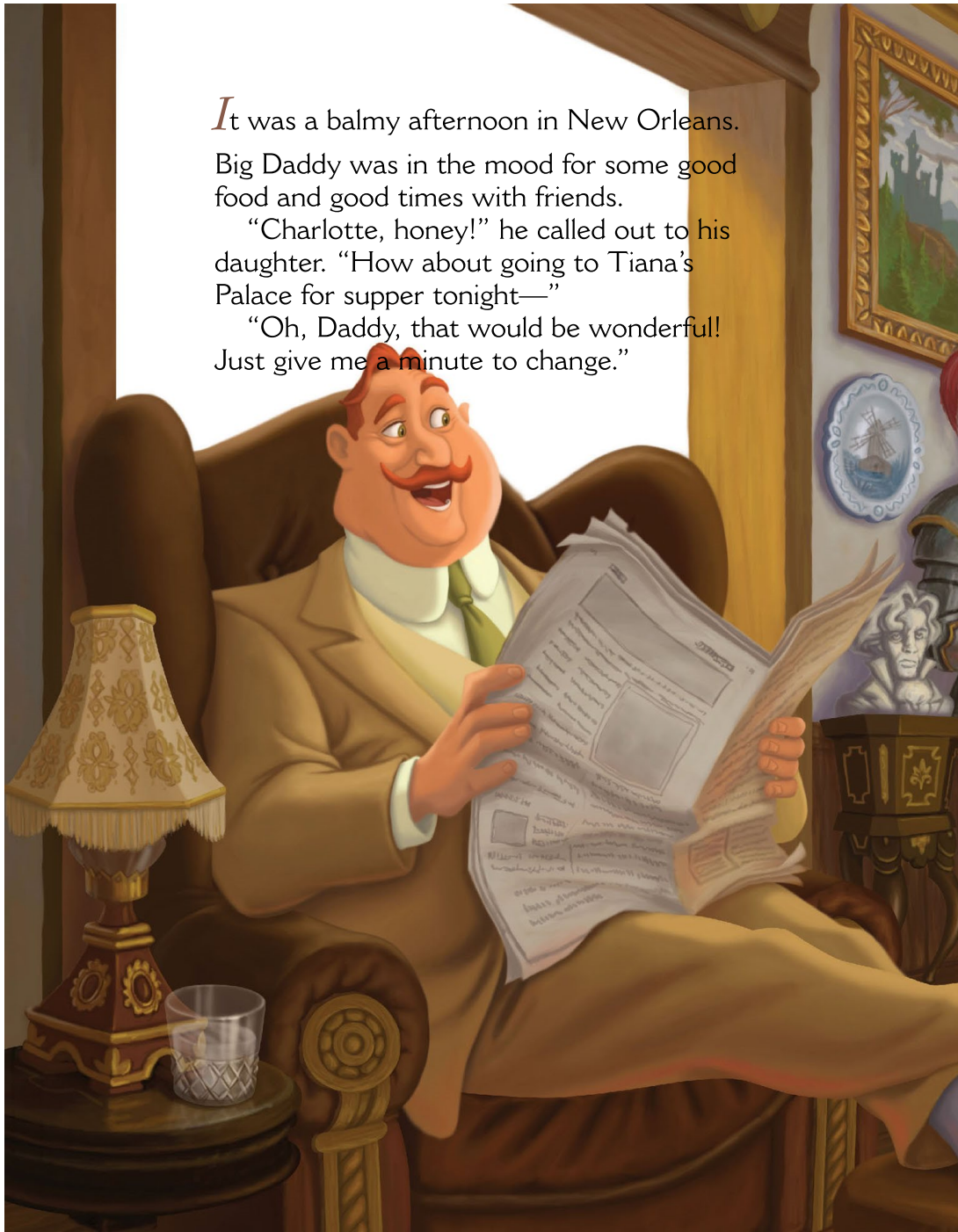
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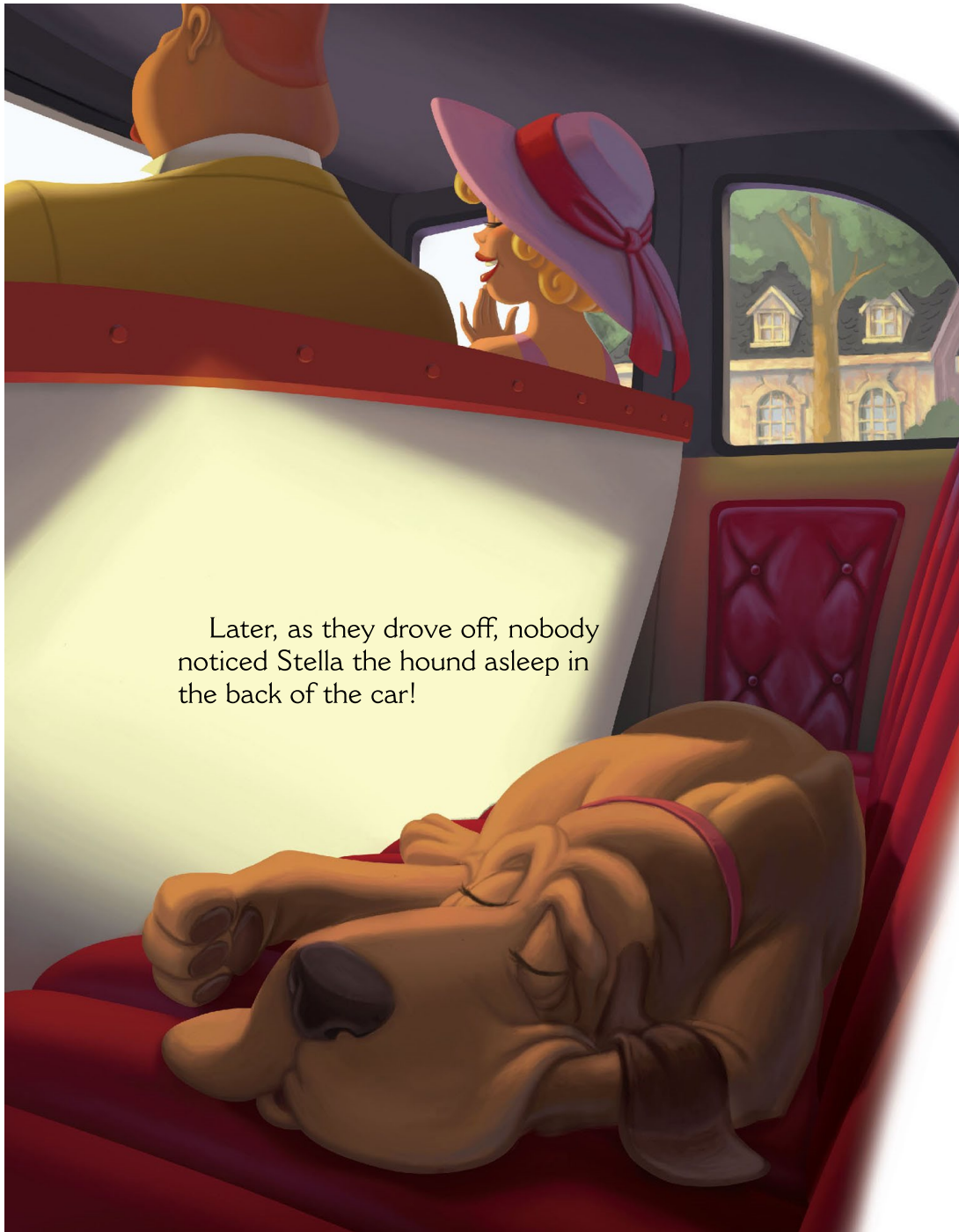
*I*t was a balmy afternoon in New Orleans. Big Daddy was in the mood for some good food and good times with friends.

"Charlotte, honey!" he called out to his daughter. "How about going to Tiana's Palace for supper tonight—"

"Oh, Daddy, that would be wonderful! Just give me a minute to change."







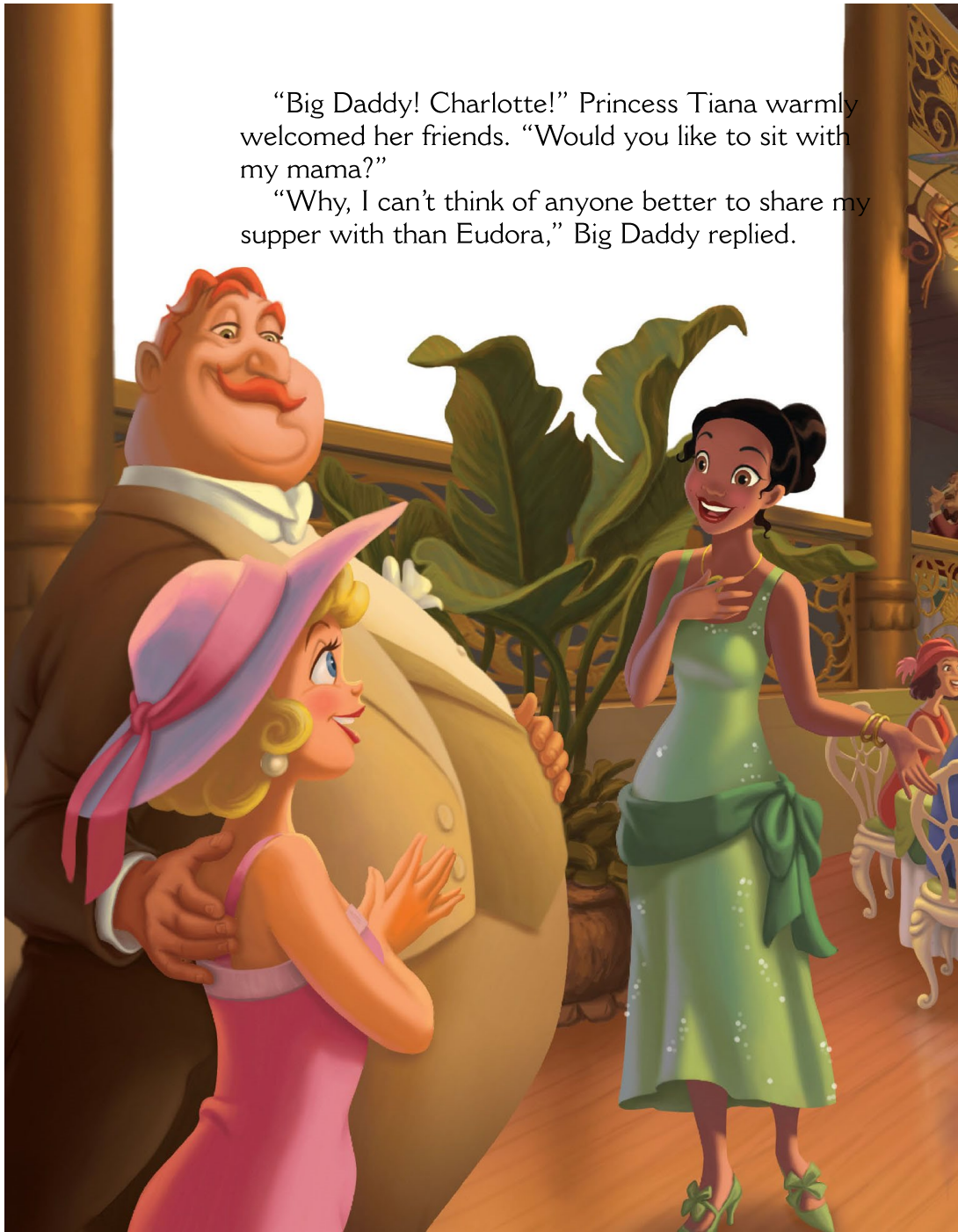
Later, as they drove off, nobody noticed Stella the hound asleep in the back of the car!



But Stella didn't mind. In fact, the one thing that woke her up was the smell of Tiana's beignets when they reached the restaurant. Stella loved Tiana's beignets, so the hound followed her nose right into the restaurant's back kitchen.

“Big Daddy! Charlotte!” Princess Tiana warmly welcomed her friends. “Would you like to sit with my mama?”

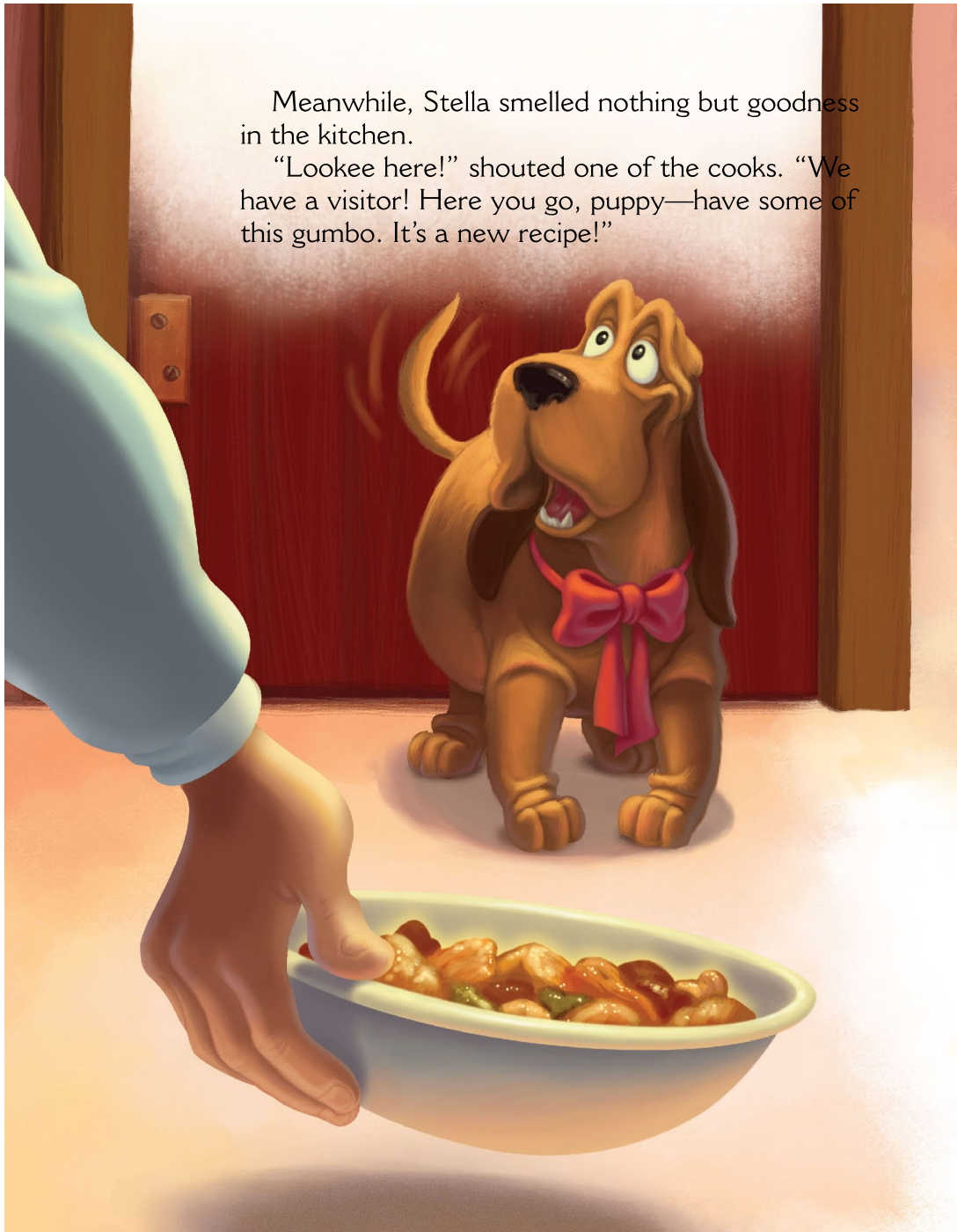
“Why, I can’t think of anyone better to share my supper with than Eudora,” Big Daddy replied.





Meanwhile, Stella smelled nothing but goodness in the kitchen.

“Lookee here!” shouted one of the cooks. “We have a visitor! Here you go, puppy—have some of this gumbo. It’s a new recipe!”





Stella spent a happy evening in the kitchen getting well fed and petted, while Charlotte and Big Daddy dined to Louis's jazz music and good conversation with their friends.



After the last jazz number was played,
Prince Naveen's parents, the king and queen
of Maldonia, got up to leave, offering Eudora
a ride home.

"Why, thank you," Eudora said. Turning to Princess Tiana, she
added, "I have never heard the band play quite so well as tonight. And
that new gumbo—absolutely delicious. I'll see you later, sweetheart."

As everyone said their good-byes, still nobody knew about Stella . . .



. . . not until Louis entered the kitchen for his evening meal with the rest of the band.

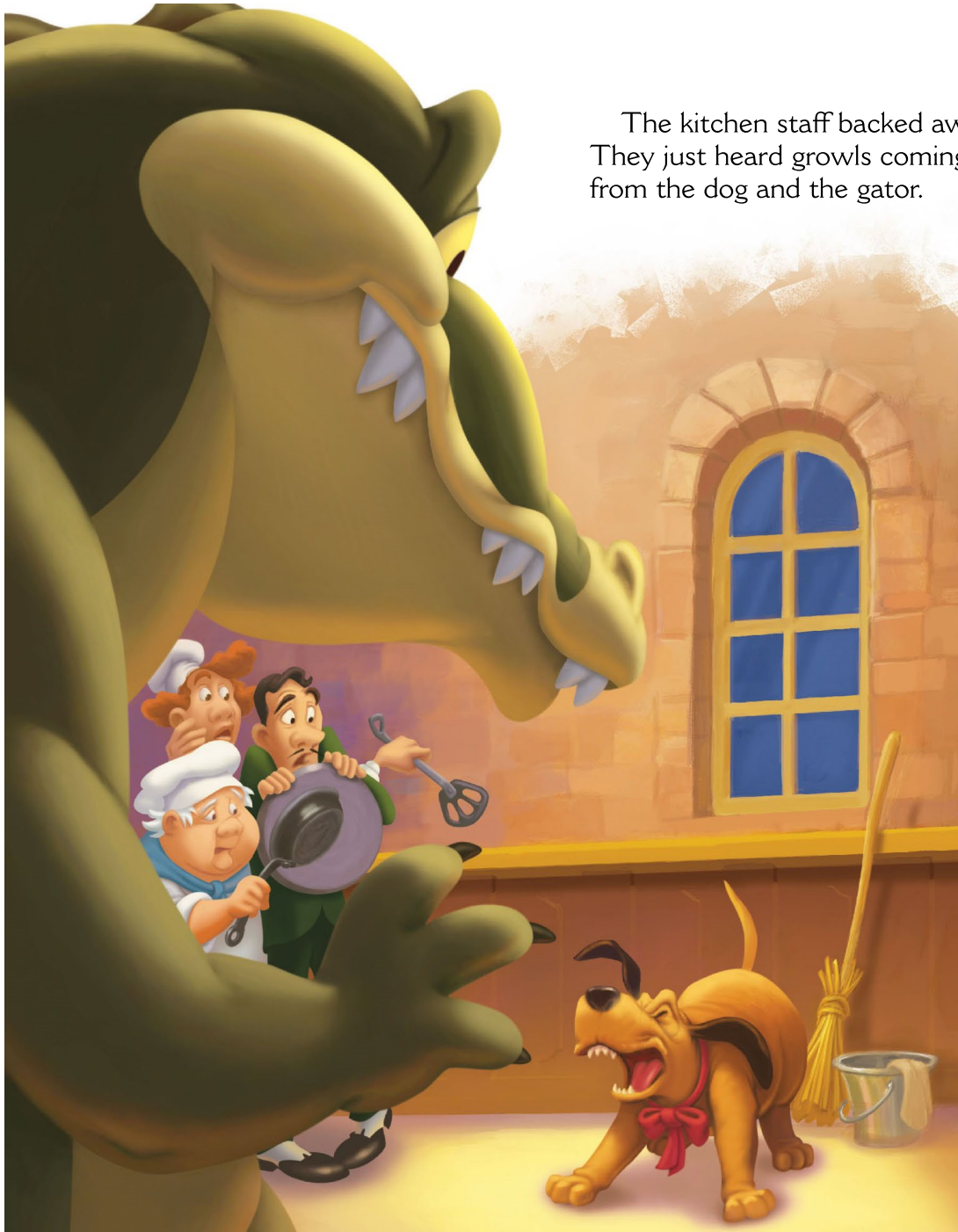
“Grrr! Woof!” Stella was terrified of the giant alligator.

“Oh, now hold on, little dog!” Louis spoke to Stella. “I’m not here to eat you. I just wanted a taste of the chef’s new gumbo!”





The kitchen staff backed away.
They just heard growls coming
from the dog and the gator.





Princess Tiana and Prince Naveen also heard the commotion as they reentered the restaurant after bidding their friends and family good night.



As soon as the prince and princess entered the kitchen, they saw a very frightened Stella plastered against a wall, barking at Louis.

“What is going on with you two?” Princess Tiana said, concerned for Stella.





“Oh, Stella,” Princess Tiana said, gently petting the dog.
“It’s
just Louis. He wouldn’t hurt anybody.”
“That’s true!” Naveen cried as he put his arm around Louis.
“Louis? He is nothing but a big guy with a bigger heart.”







“Go ahead, Stella,” Princess Tiana encouraged the dog. “Naveen will hold on to Louis, and you just walk right over to them.”

Cautiously, Stella walked toward Louis, with Tiana by her side.

Stella sniffed Louis and then turned back toward the food. Tiana giggled. Naveen giggled. Louis wanted to giggle, but he thought he might scare Stella all over again.



It didn't take long for the staff of Tiana's Palace to put together a supper made up of that evening's leftovers. Prince Naveen played the ukulele, and Tiana made some of her special beignets—just for Stella. Princess Tiana had to smile. These were truly the good times her father had imagined having at their restaurant.



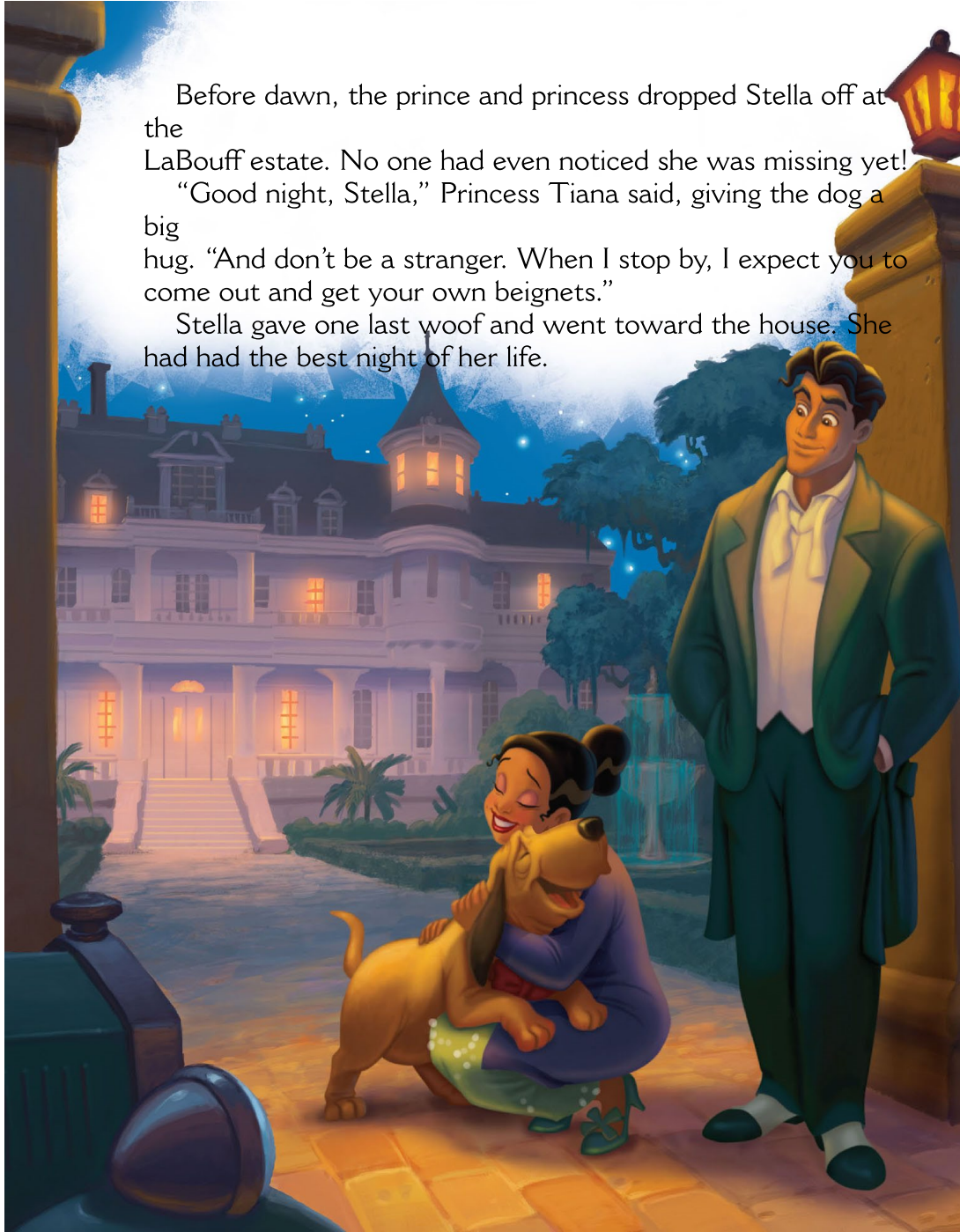
Before dawn, the prince and princess dropped Stella off at the

LaBouff estate. No one had even noticed she was missing yet!

"Good night, Stella," Princess Tiana said, giving the dog a big

hug. "And don't be a stranger. When I stop by, I expect you to come out and get your own beignets."

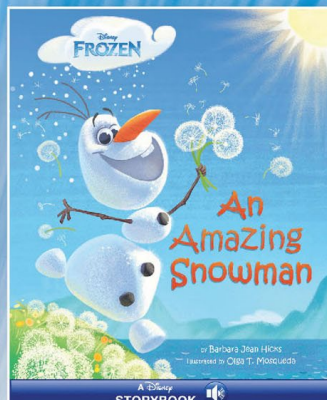
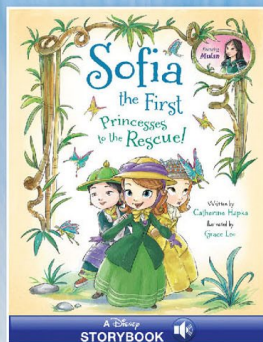
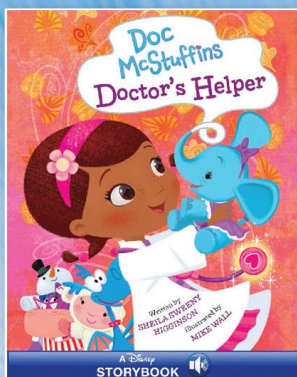
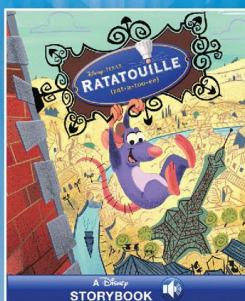
Stella gave one last woof and went toward the house. She had had the best night of her life.



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When Charlotte and Big Daddy LaBouff

decide

to have dinner at Tiana's Palace, they don't realize that their dog, Stella, has tagged along, too. Soon Stella is the hit of Tiana's kitchen, getting all the food and attention she could ever want. That is, until Louis enters the kitchen and scares her. . . .

Can Princess Tiana calm down Stella and help her and Louis become friends?

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